

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Wood et al

Serial No. 08/669,656

Filed: June 21, 1996

For: ION CHANNEL



Atty. Ref.: 620-131

Group: 1631

Examiner: Allen

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Plunkett
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November 19, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks, in addition to the attached Request for Continued Examination (RCE) are requested; the period for response having been extended up to and including November 19, 2001, by submission of the requisite petition and fee, attached.

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows.

Add the following claim:

E-1
--40. (new) An isolated nucleic acid that specifically hybridizes under moderate stringency conditions of 50-60°C, 5 x SSC, 30 minutes to the complement of the coding portion of the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 wherein said isolated nucleic acid encodes a voltage-gated sodium channel which is tetrodotoxin insensitive.--